bridge at Lucknow (Northern Railway), additional foot-over-bridge at Kanpur, new station building at Mau, additional platform at Tundla and second entry with booking-cum-reservation office at Lucknow Charbagh have been approved. Works of lesser value will also be taken up wherever so warranted, subject to overall availability of funds and relative priorities of various railway stations. The date of completion of these works will depend upon the overall availability of funds in the coming years.

Catering/Vending Licences on Railway Platforms

8093. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines framed for awarding catering/vending licence and allotment of Railway stalls at the Railway platform, etc. in the Railways;

(b) the number of applications received for the above purpose for the Western Railway, particularly from Gujarat;

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the number and details of new catering and vending licences issued during the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Allotment of stalls is done by the Zonal Railways by inviting applications from the professional/reputed caterers. Applications received are screened by a Screening Committee and contract awarded to the most suitable candidate on merits, after approval from competent authority.

(b) Nil

(c) Does not arise.

(d) State-wise data is not maintained.

रेलवे होटलों की स्थापना

8094. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार देश में निम्न आय वर्ग के लोगों के लिये रेलवे होटलों की स्थापना करने का विचार रखती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसे कितने होटल स्थापित किये जाने का विचार है ;

(ग) तत्संबंधी राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) उड़ीसा में इस प्रयोजन के लिये चयन किये गये स्थानों/स्टेशनों का ब्यौरा क्या है?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी. के. जाफर शरीफ) : (क) से (घ) परियोजना वैचारिक स्तर पर है।

Increase in the Platforms at Vijayawada Railway Station

8095. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of platforms at Vijaywada Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is congestion at Vijayawada Junction; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to ease this congestion?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

रेलवे पुलों का निर्माण

8096. **श्रीमती मालती शर्मा** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों की संख्या क्या है जिनका रेल मंत्री महोदय ने वर्ष 1994-95 के दौरान दौरा किया और उन क्षेत्रों की संख्या क्या है जिनमें उन्होंने रेलवे पुल बनाने की अनुमति दी;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि जनवरी-फरवरी, 1995 में अपने बंगलौर दौरे के दौरान उन्होंने बंगलौर में अपने फार्म हाऊस के समीप एक रेलवे पुल बनाने की स्वीकृति दी थी ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस रेलवे पुल पर कुल कितना व्यय होने की संभावना है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी.के. जाफर शरीफ) : (क) वर्ष 1994-95 के दौरान रेल मंत्री द्वारा सभी नौ क्षेत्रीय रेलों का दौरा किया गया था। इन दौरों के दौरान किसी पुल को मंजूरी नहीं दी गई थी।

(ख) जी नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Shatabdi Express Train to Jaipur

8097. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Shatabdi Express train to Jaipur has been started to reduce the running time of the fastest train in the Pink City by half;

(b) if so, whether the same is targetted to serve the tourists, particularly the foreign tourists, and if so, whether it will also cover Ajmer-Sherif as is done by the Pink-City; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any other Shatabdi Express has been introduced during the last three months; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) For the convenience of the passengers including the foreign tourists, a Shatabdi Express between New Delhi and Jaipur has been introduced w.e.f. 24.12.94. It is scheduled to leave New Delhi at 0615 Hrs. arriving Jaipur at 1100 Hrs. and in the return direction leaving Jaipur at 1735 Hrs. and arriving New Delhi at 2215 Hrs. This train is proposed to be extended to Ajmer.

(c) No Shatabdi Express has been introduced during February—April, 1995.

Doubling of Solapur-Hotgi and Daund Baramati Section

8098. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal for doubling of the Solapur-Hotgi section was included in the 1991-92 works preliminary programme and of the Daund Baramati section in 1992-93 works programme; and

(b) whether the works have not yet been taken up for implementation; if so, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) (i) The works of doubling of Solapur-Hotgi section was included in the Preliminary Works Programme of 1991-92.